7. Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

8. Karnataka State Open University, Mysore, Karnataka.

There is no Open University in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The number of students registered during 1996-97 in four functional Open Universities are given below:

No. of students registered during 1996-97	
Indira Gandhi National Open Unviersity—	1,30,354
DR. B.R. Ambedkar Open University—	79,759
Yashvant Rao Chavan Maharashtra Open University—	54,508
Kota Open University—	7,568
Total	2,72,189

The other four Open Universities are in the process of launching academic programmes and have no students on their rolls presently. At present the operations of IGNOU are within the country. In IGNOU, however, there is a special programme called the Rajiv Gandhi Fellowship Programme jointly operated by the Rajiv Gandhi Fundation and Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver, Canada seeking to provide advance training to Distance Educators from the developing Commonwealth Countries. The programme involves conferment of Post Graduate diploma and Master of Arts in Distance Education. During the current academic session 101 Scholars from 17 such countries are undergoing training under this programme.

(c) Open Universities offer a variety of Programmes such as Professional, Vocational, Technical and General Programmes at Certificate, Diploma, Graduate and Post-graduate level. The number of programmes on offer during 1996-97 are 127. Admission to General Programmes at graduate level is open to (a) those who have passed 10 + 2 examination and (b) those who do not have any formal qualifications but have attached the age of 20 and passed to eligibility test. Admission to professional Programme is usually through entrance test.

Female Infanticide in Tamil Nadu

72. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether prevalence of female infanticide is in vogue in Tamil Nadu and in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted of the extent and the reasons for this deplorable practice; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to stop this practice?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) (a) to (c) The Department of Women and Child Development has sponsored seven independent sample studies in nine states viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh to assess the size and magnitude of the problem of female infanticide. Reports received have revealed that female infanticide is practiced amongst a few communities and in certain pockets of the country. Infanticide is a crime under the Indian Penal Code. The persons found involved in such acts are proceeded against under the law. The Central Government has also enacted the Pre-natal Dignostic Tecniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 to curb the misuse of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for determination of the sex of the foetus leading to female foeticide. Besides, various programmes of action and advocay are being implemented by the Government in the country for the welfare and development of women and the girl child. Attempts are also being made to project a positive images of the girl child so as to bring about changes in societal attitudes towards them. The Government has also initiated a media campaign to generate awareness on various issues relating to the girl child. A National Plan of Action for the SAARC Decade (1991-2000 A.D.) for the Girl Child focussing on survival, protection and development of the girl child has been formulated. A special set of interventions for

adolescent girls has been institutionalised through the Integrated Child Development Services structure. Some states have also launched specific schemes to raise the status of the girl child.

केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन के शासी मंडल की शक्तियां

73. **श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय विद्यालयों में प्रवेश-संबंधी नियम, प्राथमिकताएं, शिथिलताएं आदि निश्चित करने की शक्तियां संगठन के शासी मंडल में निहित हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या केन्द्रीय विद्यालयों में वर्ष 1992 से प्रारंभ होने वाले विशेष अनुकम्पा प्रवेश संबंधी प्रावधान संगठन के शासी मंडल द्वारा बनाया गया था; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और यदि नहीं, तो इसकी वैधता का ब्यौरा क्या है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुही राम सैकिया): (क) संगठन के कार्यों के प्रशासन और प्रबंधन के लिए विनियम बनाने की शक्ति शासी बोर्ड के पास है।

(ख) और (ग) विशेष छूट दाखिला से संबंधित सिफारिशें तत्कालीन माननीय मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री, जो केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन के शासी बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष भी थे, द्वारा अनुमोदित थीं।

Funds given to Kerala Universities

74. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for allocating funds to the various universities from UGC;

(b) the amount given to the various universities in Kerala during the last three years, university-wise;

(c) the university which got the highest amount, together with names of the five top universities and the amount given to these during this period; and

(d) whether there is any demand for more funds from the universities from Kerala, if so, the reason for not granting the same to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) University Grants Commission (UGC) provides development grants to all eligible universities, as per the prescribed norms and subject to availability of resources, for recruitment of teaching and supporting staff purchase of equipment, books and journals, faculty improvement, construction of women's hotels, staff quarters, campus development, etc. The quantum of grant payable to the eligible universities is worked out on the basis of various parameters such as stage of development of the concerned institution, level of teaching (i.e. undergraduate/postgraduate), students and faculty strength, etc. A statement showing the total grants paid to the eligible universities in Kerala under various schemes during the last three years is attached at statement (*See* below).

(d) 8th plan allocations for the universities in Kerala were made keeping in view the availability of resources for the Plan period. It is possible that some of the demands may not have been fully met due to the constrains of financial resources faced by the Government and UGC.

Statement

Grants Paid by University Grants Commission to the Universities of Kerala during last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of University	93-94	94-95	95-96	Total
1. Kerala University	101.06	203.96	127.31	432.33
2. Calicut University	51.04	41.19	131.34	223.57
3. Cochin University of Sc. & Tech.	157.01	129.73	78.46	365.20
4. Kerala Agricultural	0.30	—	—	0.30
5. Mahatma Gandhi University	9.13	18.76	37.10	64.99
6 Shree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit	—	—	—	—
	318.54	393.64	374.21	1086.39